

1 to whether or not something actually touches, and thought  
2 that it more aptly could be used rather than the word  
3 "contiguous."

4 The third test, above and beyond the test of  
5 compactness and adjoining, is the natural subdivisions  
6 and boundaries of political subdivisions shall be followed  
7 insofar as practicable. That has been a standard provision  
8 in most districting constitutional provisions and is de-  
9 signed to eliminate to some degree the element of gerry-  
10 mandering. .

11 We did not follow the example of New York, which  
12 had a specific 11th Commandment, which was, "Thou shalt  
13 not gerrymander." We thought that was perhaps carrying  
14 do-good too far; that is, to eliminate the practice. I think  
15 what you would find significant is the next sentence, the  
16 number of persons represented by each senator shall be  
17 substantially equal, and the number of persons represented  
18 by each delegate shall be substantially equal. Here we  
19 departed from the language of the Commission text which  
20 provided that the population represented should be as equal  
21 as practicable in substance.